

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 AID-05
DHA-02 /060 W
-----095087 271311Z /53

R 271025Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8196
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY MBABANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 3695

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SF

SUBJECT: NEW SWAZI HOMELAND LEADERSHIP AGREES TO
ESTABLISH OWN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

REF: PRETORIA 489

1. SUMMARY: THE NEW SWAZI HOMELAND LEADERS AND THE SAG HAVE AGREED TO ESTABLISH A LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE HOMELAND, THUS ELEVATING IT TO SELF-GOVERNING STATUS. THIS DECISION FOLLOWS THE OUSTING OF FORMER CHIEF COUNCILLOR J.M. DLAMINI IN AN INTERNAL POWER STRUGGLE WITH A FACTION LESS AMENABLE TO CLOSE TIES WITH SWAZILAND CHIEF SOBHUZA. END SUMMARY.

2. THE NEW SWAZI HOMELAND CHIEF EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR ENOS J. MABUZA AND BANTU AFFAIRS MINISTER M.C. BOTHA ANNOUNCED JULY 24 THAT THEY HAVE AGREED TO CONSIDER A DRAFT CONSTITUTION FOR THE HOMELAND AND TO ESTABLISH A LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AS OF OCTOBER 1. THEY ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT THEY HAD AGREED ON A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NUMBER OF TERRITORIAL QUESTIONS, INCLUDING POSTPONING PREVIOUS PLANS TO DEMOLISH A NUMBER OF TOWNS AND TO MOVE A NUMBER OF SWAZIS IN THE NSIKAZI AREA TO ANOTHER AREA.

3. THIS ANNOUNCEMENT FOLLOWS A SERIES OF INTERNAL MANEUVERINGS WITHIN THE SWAZI TERRITORIAL AUTHORITY WHICH CAUSED THE OUSTING OF FORMER CHIEF EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR CHIEF J.M.

DLAMINI AND HIS REPLACEMENT BY MABUZA, WHO IS A COMMONER. ACCORDING TO DLAMINI, HIS OUSTER CAME AFTER THE DEPARTMENT OF BANTU AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT (BAD) PRESENTED HIM WITH A DOCUMENT FOR HIS SIGNATURE GIVING THE COMMISSIONER GENERAL E.F. POTGIETER THE RIGHT TO REMOVE SWAZIS FROM THEIR TRADITIONAL AREAS. DLAMINI TOLD THE PRESS HE HAD REFUSED TO SIGN SINCE THIS WOULD BE COMMITTING POLITICAL SUICIDE. HOWEVER HE APPARENTLY WASN'T ABLE TO CONVINCE BAD TO REVERSE THIS DEMAND, AND SO AT A MEETING OF THE TERRITORIAL AUTHORITY JUNE 24 HE WAS REMOVED AFTER A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE. THE REPRESENTATIVES THEN ELECTED MABUZA AND A NEW EXECUTIVE, AND GAVE THEM A MANDATE TO PREPARE TOGETHER WITH POTGIETER FOR THE JULY 20-21 MEETING WITH M.C. BOTHA TO ESTABLISH THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE WERE REPORTED TO BE DAVID LUKHELE (JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS), CHIEF T.F. DLAMINI (AGRICULTURE), E. NKUMANE (WORKS), AND P.J. MASILELA (EDUCATION).

4. COMMENT: MABUZA IS A COMPLETE UNKNOWN, AND OUR SOURCES HERE HAVE ALMOST NO BIO INFORMATION ON HIM. HE DID APPEAR WITH BOTHA ON SABC-TV JULY 23 AND IMPRESSED VIEWERS AS AN INTELLIGENT, ARTICULATE SPOKESMAN WITH AN EXCELLENT COMMAND OF ENGLISH. PREVIOUS TO MABUZA'S APPOINTMENT, LUKHELE WAS J.M. DLAMINI'S CHIEF RIVAL AND NATIONAL ORGANIZER OF THE POLITICAL PARTY, THE SWAZI NATIONAL COUNCIL. HIS PRESENCE ON THE EXECUTIVE WOULD SEEM TO IMPLY THAT HIS GROUP, WHICH OPPOSES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CLOSE TIES WITH SWAZILAND KING SOBHUZA, HAS WON AN INTERNAL POWER STRUGGLE WITH THE DLAMINI/GAMA GROUP (REFTEL).
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: CONSTITUTION, LAND SETTLEMENT, SELFDETERMINATION, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE
Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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